

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 1-22 and 24-31, 34, 38, 49 and 50.

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously Amended) A method of filtration of liquids comprising selecting a fluid having a pH about 4 and containing one or more contaminants to be removed, forming one or more porous filters, said one or more filters having pores of a nominal diameter between 0.1 and 10 microns and the one or more porous filters having surfaces which are substantially neutral within the selected

fluid and passing the fluid through the one or more filters to remove the contaminants.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)

24. (Canceled)

Kelly et al.
Serial No. 09/759,920
Amendment

Page five

25. (Canceled)

26. (Canceled)

27. (Canceled)

28. (Canceled)

29. (Canceled)

30. (Canceled)

31. (Canceled)

32. (Withdrawn)

33. (Withdrawn)

34. (Withdrawn)

35. (Withdrawn)

36. (Withdrawn)

37. (Withdrawn)

38. (Withdrawn)

39. (Withdrawn)

40. (Withdrawn)

41. (Withdrawn)

42. (Withdrawn)

43. (Withdrawn)

44. (Withdrawn)

45. (Withdrawn)

46. (Withdrawn)

48. (Withdrawn

49. (Withdrawn

50. (Withdrawn

51. (Withdrawn

52. (Withdrawn)


53. (Withdrawn)

54. (Withdrawn)

55. (Withdrawn)

56. (Withdrawn)

57. (Withdrawn)



58. (New) The process of filtering a fluid containing positively charged particles and negatively charged particles to remove said positively charged particles and said negatively charged particles from said fluid which comprises:
filtering said fluid with one or more filters having a nominal pore diameter between 0.1 and 10 microns and having a Zeta Potential between about 0 and -5 millivolts in the fluid.

59. (New) The process of Claim 58 wherein the fluid is an aqueous fluid and the surface is substantially neutral over a preselected pH range.

60. (New) The process of Claim 58 wherein the one or more filters have a log reduction value (LRV) of at least 3 of particles in the selected fluid.

61. (New) The process of Claim 58 wherein the one or more filters have a log reduction value (LRV) of from about 3 to about 20 of particles in the selected fluid.

62. (New) The process of Claim 58 wherein the substantially neutral surface is inherent in the nature of the one or more filters.

63. (New) The process of Claim 58 wherein the substantially neutral surface is formed by surface modification of the one or more filters.

64. (New) The process of Claim 58 wherein the substantially neutral surface of the filter is modified and the surface modification is selected from the group consisting of cross linking and grafting of one or more monomers on surfaces of the one or more filters.

65. (New) The process of Claim 58 wherein the substantially neutral surface is formed by surface modification of the filter and the surface modification is by application of an energy source on surfaces of the one or more filters.

66. (New) The process of Claim 58 wherein the one or more filters are made from a material selected from the group consisting of cellulose, glass, ceramics and metals.

67. (New) The process of Claim 58 wherein the one or more filters are made from a material selected from the group consisting of cellulose, regenerated cellulose and nitrocellulose.

68. (New) The process of Claim 58 wherein the one or more filters are made from a metal selected from the group consisting of stainless steel, nickel, chromium and alloys and blends thereof.

69. (New) The process of Claim 58 wherein the one or more filters are made from a plastic selected from the group consisting of polyolefins; copolymers or terpolymers of polyolefins; PVDF; PTFE resin; PFA; perfluorinated

thermoplastic resins; PVD; nylons; polyamides; polysulphones;
polyethersulphones; polarylsulphones; polyphenylsulphones; polyimides;
polycarbonates; polyesters; and blends thereof.

70. (New) The process of Claim 58 wherein the one or more filters are made from a polyolefin selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polypropylene and the like.

71. (New) The process of Claim 58 wherein the one or more filters are made from an ultrahigh molecular weight polyethylene.

72. (New) The process of Claim 58 utilizing two or more filters in a composite filter each with a different IEP.

73. (New) The process of Claim 58 wherein the surface of the one or more filters is treated with one or more monomers selected from the group consisting of acrylate or acrylamide monomers and methacrylate or acrylamide monomers and blends thereof.

74. (New) The process of Claim 58 wherein the surface of the one or more filters is treated with acrylic acid.

75. (New) The process of Claim 58 wherein the surface of the one or more filters is treated with acrylic acid, a photoinitiator and a cross linker.

76. (New) The process of Claim 58 wherein the surface of the one or more filters is treated with acrylic acid, a photoinitiator and a cross linker, wherein the cross linker is N, N'-methylenebisacrylamide.

77. (New) The process of Claim 58 wherein the surface of the one or more filters is treated with N, N'-methylenebisacrylamide.

78. (New) The process of Claim 58 wherein the one or more filters have a log reduction value (LRV) of at least 3 of particles of an average diameter that is smaller than the nominal pore size of the filter in the selected fluid.